

**Secure Commonwealth Panel
Education Working Group Meeting
Wednesday, September 10, 2008 1:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m.**

NEXT MEETING October 29, 2008

Participants:

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|--|--|----------------------------|--|
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SUMMARY

- Approach
 - Content should be All-hazards with a goal of heighten awareness
 - Existing materials are plentiful
 - Most preferred the integration into existing SOLS rather than creating new SOLS
- Next Steps
 - Develop and release survey to see what resources are available/inventory of existing curriculum programs
 - Consider using the current DCJS school safety audit/survey/assessment. (which is done August-September each year-with report released in December).
 - Suggestion to add crisis management to survey.

- Develop a single place for all preparedness resources to available to K-5 teachers, and other stakeholders
- Find Best Practices/look at other states and counterparts of OCP/VDEM/DOE, etc.
- Pilot program in select localities

Education Working Group Meeting Notes

Areas of Agreement

- All-hazards approach
- Need to know what we want to teach.
- There is currently not 1 place for preparedness resources for K-5 teachers, and other stakeholders.
- There is not a shortage of materials.
- Many like the integration into existing SOLS rather than creating new SOLS.
- Utilize survey to see what resources are available/inventory of existing curriculum programs.
- Want to heighten awareness.
- Thought of inserting questions into DCJS school safety audit/survey/assessment. (which is done August-September each year-with report released in December).
- Suggestion to add crisis management to survey.
- Find Best Practices/look at other states and counterparts of OCP/VDEM/DOE, etc.
- Liability issue might encourage schools to get involved in preparedness
- No Need to reinvent the wheel.
- Possibly look at pilot sites/locations to do a program.

Opportunities

- Department of Fire Programs (DFP) provides training for fire safety. They do not teach programs (all-hazards training).
- DFP has survey to Fire Departments to see what training they provide to schools.
- Riskwatch (developed by the National Fire Prevention Association might be a good model.) But needs to be updated.
- Put out resources to public to promote partnerships with schools.
- Develop Virginia Version of Riskwatch
- The need for the schools not to see it as something in addition to current duties, rather as a resource.
- On-line training for teachers/stakeholders.
- How to integrate safety and preparedness into specific SOLS?
- MAP SOLS (DOE) to RESOURCES (CPWG).
- Public service announcement/efforts/partnerships.

Code

- Tornado Drill
- DCJS School Safety Survey
- Safe and Drug Free School Survey
- The effort may not require code change?

Facts

- 2100 school across VA
- 85,000 teachers
- 100% compliance to DCJS survey

Curriculum

- How to change –code/SOLS (maybe difficult due to other changes and additions)

SOLS

- Using existing SOLS----to integrate Riskwatch.
- Giving more resources for existing SOLS (integrating preparedness)
- Get list of SOLS (from DOE)
- All SOLS are not tested/assessed.

Planning

- All schools area required to have a crisis management plan. (need to train teachers and administrators and staff on crisis plan.)

Issues

- Age appropriate preparedness information (Adopt and Phase-in. 1) becomes a habit 2) building process.
- What VA specific hazards do people need to learn?
- Survey of what currently exist.
- Teachers are overloaded; need to get community support; teachers do not have to be experts.
- Website may be too passive.
- Might not happen if it is not Mandated (through SOLS)-can not leave it up to jurisdiction.
- School with lower SOL benchmarks may not see this as a priority.
- Different appreciation for preparedness from one teacher to the next.
- Partnerships can be developed. (Chesterfield County).
- Multiple resources are diffused among several agencies/organizations 1) DFP, 2) VDEM 3) Red Cross, 4) VDH etc.
- Before and After School Opportunities.
- If mandated in SOLS teachers would need training.
- Prioritize and Organize specific hazards.
- Staff needs training
- How much can one take-ing?
 - Need to balance 1) Emergency Management
 - 2) Fire Programs
 - 3) Health etc.

- Funding?
- Some localities are vested in different specific programs (DARE).
- Broad and flexible program can be sustained.